

HINT
ON
DUELLING,
In a LETTER to a FRIEND.

The SECOND EDITION.

To which is added,

The BRUISE R,
OR
An Inquiry into the PRETENSIONS
OF
MODERN MANHOOD.

In a Letter to a YOUNG GENTLEMAN.

LONDON:

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ANALYSIS OF THE TRANSITIONS



MODERN HOOD.

ЧАМСАТИСО ОИУОУ А СИ ЧИСАД А ЗИ

Людмила

Printed for W. Saurier, and the Royal Society
London, 1723.

THE BOSTONIAN



A
LETTER
TO A
FRIEND.

SIR,

IH A V E assumed the Liberty
of transmitting to you my
Thoughts at large concerning
the Custom of Duelling; conceiving
it the best Manner of answering your
proposed Question, "Whether it would
" be more Beneficial to the State, to en-
" deavour to exterminate this Practice, by
" inflicting on Offenders the Severest Pu-
" nishments that can be invented; (which

B

" you

“ you say is rumour'd to be intended
 “ or on the contrary, by a constant Con-
 “ nivance to permit it.”

Men you know, Sir, are impell'd to Society by two Principles, Instinct and Reason: The first (which they have in common with other Herding Animals) constrains them to Associate; the other enables them to direct such Associations to the Benefit of the Members. The Governing Part of Societies owe to their Subjects Protection against other States, (one Universal Government seeming Impracticable) and the Defence of Particulars from the Injustice of Fellow-Subjects. Laws are the Instruments used for the latter Purpose; but it being impossible for General Regulations to comprehend all possible Accidents, Cases will necessarily arise, wherein Individuals must be exposed to Insults from Individuals that are Remediless by the Magistrate. Injuries prove greater

or

or less in Proportion to the Sensibility of the injured Party; and consequently that may cut one Man to the Heart which would not *discontinuate* the Skin of another. Those who are most sensible of Insults will with the greatest Care avoid such Misbehaviour as may expose them thereto; and of Course must constitute a very valuable Set of Subjects, with respect to one of the great Ends of Society, the Peace of Particulars. The Principle of Honour then, so far as it consists in doing more, and (sometimes by an unavoidable Reciprocation) bearing less, than the *callous Generality*, is by no means a ridiculous, but a laudable, Principle; and the more so, as it seems inseparably connected with that Valour which is essential to the other great End of Society, the Defence of its Members from external Attacks. Every Subject in Cases wherein he ceases to be protected by the Government rationally ceases to be a

Subject, reverts consequently into a State of Nature, and has a Right to exert his own Wisdom and Courage in his Defence.

Hence doubtless has arisen the Necessity of Duelling; which is, or should be, either a Manly Decision of such Differences between Particulars as come not within the Cognizance of the Laws of a Country, or an Honourable Punishment of Injuries irreparable by the Magistrate. This Custom^a therefore some

Legisla-

^a If it be objected, that the *Romans* (and some other States) knew nothing of Duelling; it may be answered, that the *Romans* were also ignorant of many Points of Decency and Politeness, which more-improved Nations have found extreamly expedient; and that it was from hence arose that Brutal Carriage of their great Men to one another, which surprises and shocks us Moderns. The Exclusion of this Practice too necessarily introduced among the *Romans* Enormities of a deeper Dye, as will be shewn hereafter.

Custodite Animas, et Nulli credite Mensæ. Juv.
Interdum et Ferro subitus Grassator agit rem. Id.

Legislators (and particularly those from whom we *boast our Constitution*) have adopted into their Laws; others have prohibited, and at the same Time connived at; and none have suppressed, without introducing greater Evils than those they injudiciously attempted to remove.

But to avoid extreme Prolixity, let us keep at Home; and on mature Examination we shall find, Sir, (notwithstanding the opposed Clamour of Prejudice) that the Mischiefs attending this Practice are Inconsiderable; the resulting Advantages Important; the Enormities that will ensue its attempted Abolition Terrible; and that we much more want a Regulation, than a severer Prohibition, of it.

The Inconveniences produced by Duelling must either affect the State in general, or particular Members of it. The State can only be affected thereby,

as it may be weakened by the Loss of a Multitude of Subjects, or of a few on whose superior Abilities its Welfare may depend. But Nature, by the instinctive Fear of Death implanted in all Men, has sufficiently provided against the first Apprehension; as the smallest Skill in Calculation^a will evidence to those Chimerical Heads who imagine People will wantonly throw away their Lives. And in settled Governments the Current of Business runs so smooth, that very moderate Capacities can stem it, without the Assistance, and even to the Exclusion, of Extraordinary Merit. The State therefore rarely, very rarely, is a Sufferer on the second Account. Particular Persons and Families, it must be confessed, will sometimes suffer through
Duel-

^a Were a Computation made of such as have fallen in Duels for a Series of Years, the Inconsiderableness of the Number would ill justify the extravagant Clamour raised about them.

Duelling; but, as it is a received Maxim in Politcks (and indeed an invariable Law of Nature) to sacrifice the Good of Individuals to that of the whole whenever they clash, (Government itself being liable to this Objection) they ought patiently to submit, and console themselves, as well as they can, with benevolent Reflections on the Benefits thence accruing to the Nation.

Allowing it however Practicable to eradicate these Appeals to private Valour, is it not to be apprehended, Sir, that, in a Country so free, and an Age so licentious, as Ours, this Eradication would be pregnant with greater Mischiefs than even a Permissive Connivance at them? The Leviathans of Riches and Power (who could well wage their Law at least by means of a weighty Purse and powerful Interest) would be thereby let loose to Insult and Oppress the Gentry of moderate Fortunes, however otherwise

wise independent. Every Brute of high Condition, when inflamed by Insolence or *quotidian Wine*, might disturb with Impunity the proposed Amusement of Thousands. No Woman, though surrounded by Relations and Friends, could partake of a publick Diversion, unnoxious to Obscenities and Affronts. Our Roads would assume a Face of War, whence each *Regally retinued Milo* would sweep the slenderly accompanied *Clodius*. And the sportive Field, interdicted to Single Persons, exhibit other Chevy-chaces. The timid Scoundrel would no longer hesitate to commit the scandalous Breach of Trust he before thought of with trembling: And the libidinous Villain destroy with Boasts the Peace and Honour of Families, by the infidious corrupting of Maids and Matrons. Why not? The coercive Motive to Decency and Moderation no longer exists; the Fence against Brutality and Insolence is removed.

But

But the entire Extinction of Dueling is, I am firmly persuaded, Sir, impracticable whenever it has taken deep Root. For what Penalties can intimidate Men that evince themselves superior to the Fear of Death^a itself: Or Stigma *Infame* what Honour and Reason approve? Innocent Descendents may indeed, by a *Jewish Visitation*, be impoverish'd and distress'd for a Fact they could not prevent: But Marks of infamy would lose their Nature on the *Coat of Honour*, and become more glorious than the Ribbons of ill-acquired Favour or the Titles of Purchase. With however ignominious Words the *Face of Virtue* might be branded, the Sensible would, by an honest Witchcraft, read the Inscription backwards. Nor need the

C modestest

“ Quos ille Timorum
“ Maximus baud urget Leti Metus : Inde ruendi
“ In Ferrum mens prona viris, Animæque capaces
“ Mortis.” LUCAN.

modestest Man alive blush at being pointed out for One who had Bravely and Wisely punished an atrocious Injury irremediable by the Laws of his Country: I say Bravely, because the injured Appellant puts himself on a Level with the Injurer; and I say Wisely, because he thereby renders himself less obnoxious to Injuries for the future. On the other Hand, in what dreadful Mischiefs might not this vain Attempt be fruitful? We should soon then *Naturalize* horrid Crimes, which, Spite of our Licentiousness, have happily hitherto been Strangers to us. For either, Instant Murtherous Revenge of dubious Insults would forestall all cool Reflection, all possible Explanation, all friendly Interposition, and multiply the ten-fold Calamity: Or pretendedly Accidental, never Interrupted, *Rencontres*^a would cover and skreen

^a *Lewis XIV.* (chusing rather to have his Subjects knock their Brains out against Stone Walls, in

skreen the real Duels : Or Assassinations and Poisonings, Enormities which every one must live in dread of, Enormities so much more frequent than Duels as there are more People capable of paying a Murtherer than facing an Hostile Antagonist, Enormities which the *generous Duel* has at yet only permitted us to be *Ear-witnesſes* of, would thence take their fatal Root and quick-spreading Growth. For the Cause of the Mis-

C 2 fortune,

in propagation of his ambitious Schemes, than to let them lay down their Lives in more justifiable Causes) endeavoured to the utmost of arbitrary Power to suppress Duelling. And the Consequence of this Attempt in *France* has been, that Duels are there turn'd into *Rencontres* : That is, two Gentlemen, having had a Difference, agree to meet in some publick Place, and make an apparently accidental Quarrel, which they decide on the Spot ; and in which the Spectators make it a constant Rule not to interfere.

fortune, the Principle of Vengeance,^a universally nor unusefully inherent in Mankind, will not by such, or any other Methods be extinguished, and will always operate by the most facil Means; which these detestable Villainies may, by ill-judged Severities on infinitely less pernicious Practices, become.

What then, you will say, is to be done; what to be proposed? What, Sir, but the erecting of a proper Court, a Tribunal of Honour, where proper Judges shall sit to prevent the Calamities of which Duelling may be productive, or to exact proper Penalties of the proper Offenders? No longer let Men of Honour be haul'd before incompetent Judges, whose Stations incapacitate them from

^a The Principle of Revenge has this obvious Use, that by making its Possessors formidable it renders them less obnoxious to Injuries: As many Men would wantonly attack Sheep, whom nothing but Necessity could set on a Lion.

from sympathising with the Accused, or entering into the Merits of the Case ; but let them have the common Right of *Englishmen* and be tried by their Peers. No longer let the unfortunate Challenger, but he who made the Challenge unavoidable, be punished. No longer let a shameful Death be the Retribution of an Action which the public Voice proclaims it Infamous to Decline. The Decision of Men of adequate Character and Authority would in most Cases after Insults received prevent Duels ; and where that fail'd, a due-proportioned Punishment judiciously and impartially inflicted would soon lessen the Frequency of the Practice ; and in Time, as far as it is possible, get the better of it.

And here, Sir, I cannot pass unobserved the peculiar, unparallel'd, Hardship of a very useful Body of Men among us ; you will easily imagine I mean the Military. In our Army Commissions are bought,

bought, and at no mean Price; Officers by the Genius of the People are frequently exposed to Outrage, even in the very Execution of their Duty; that Nicety of Honour too, which alone can qualify them for their Posts, forbids them to associate with those among them of whose Courage there is any room to doubt; yet to Military Men our present Courts shew no Lenity; and if an Officer is unlucky enough once in his Life to fall in with a Wrong-headed Man, he is reduced to the cruel Alternative of losing his Bread and Character in compliance to Civil Injunctions, or of being Executed as a Criminal for complying with Military Custom.

Thus you perceive, Sir, my Opinion is, that a perfect Abolition of the Custom of Duelling, (the first Part of your Query) is at this Time Impracticable; that a Connivance thereat, (the second Part) would be more Beneficial to the

the Public than the Method in Use; but that a judicious Regulation thereof is indeed the Thing wanted. And to confirm Argument by Fact cast your Eye over the following Story.

Not far from *Bath* some Years ago lived *Honorius*, a Gentleman of affluent Fortune. In his Youth he entered into the Service of his King, but quitted it on some Military Disgust, and retired to his Patrimony; where he passed his Time in the Enjoyment of rational Pleasures, and the Society of an engaging Woman who had enrich'd him with two promising Children. *Leonora*, for so we may call *Honorius*'s Wife, was strikingly handsome, and wholly absorb'd in her Love for her Husband, and the Care of her Family. An Indisposition made it adviseable for her to visit *Bath*, and the Obstinacy of her Case necessitated her Continuance there for a considerable Time.

Time. Here she commenced an Acquaintance with *Lothario*; whose Character it will be proper to analyse. *Lothario* was a young Fellow of genteel Person, Dress, and Manner; whose Spirit soon dissipated a small Fortune, and whose Sense now supplied him with the Means of living without any. Women and Play were among his usual Resources; and he never scrupled to over-reach a weak Head, or to quarter himself on a weak Heart. He was not however himself *Love-proof*; and the first Sight of the beautiful *Leonora* inspired him with a real Passion. His Experience in Womankind soon discover'd that she was not one of those that are to be carried by skirmishing; and finding the being well with her essential to his Repose, he resolved to attack her in Form. His first Step was to insinuate himself into the Company, and Esteem, of *Honorius*. He, undesigning and unsuspecting, entered into

into an Intimacy, and e're long into a warm Friendship, with the *fraudulent Artificer*. At the Close of the Season *Lothario* accepted of an Invitation to spend some Days at the House of his new Intimate; and the intended Visit of a Week was prolonged for Months. *Honorius*'s Happiness was now compleat; he had got (he thought) what alone was wanting thereto, the Disinterested, the Sympathizing, Friend. His Felicity was however interrupted by the Death of a Relation in the *West-Indies*, who left Effects considerable enough to induce *Honorius* to make a Voyage to collect them. With the utmost Unwillingness then he parts from his beloved Wife and new-acquired Friend; recommending his Family to *her Care*, to *his Honour* the Protection of *her*, to *his Advice* the Management of all Affairs. Her Husband's Departure overwhelm'd *Leonora* with Grief; which *Lothario*'s tender Affiduity greatly alleviated, and in Time dispell'd. When she had re-

covered her usual Clearfulness, he took a favourable Opportunity and opened his Mind. He told her, he had been desperately in Love with her from the Time he first beheld her, and that he had often, but in vain, struggled to surmount a Passion that would be coeval with his Life; he confessed his counterfeit Attachment to *Honorius* a mere Pretext to enjoy her Company: He acknowledged too (with well-dissembled Confusion) his own Guilt; but imputed it to the irresistible Force of her Charms and Merit, that had warped his hitherto inviolate Honesty. *Leonora*, constitutionally Amorous, had always liked his Person; nor was her Vanity displeased at the Conquest of a Man of *Lothario*'s supposed Estimation: She received however this Declaration with unaffected Surprise, and had Conduct enough to enjoin him authoritatively an eternal Silence on its Subject. This he penitently Promised. But he fail'd

not

not in a short Time to lay hold on every Occasion to break his Promise; 'till at length she consented to a fatal Compromise, of entertaining him as a *Sentimental Lover* on Terms that should be no ways Injurious to her Virtue. *Lothario* knew himself now secure of Victory, as the remaining Conflict between Nature and Custom could not but determine in his Favour. He accordingly Triumphed sooner than may be imagined; rioted awhile in unbounded Enjoyment; then recovered his Senses. Henceforward *Lothario*'s Designs were rather on the Purse, than Person, of *Leonora*. Losses at Play, Failure of Tenants, Distresses of Friends, some Pretence or other, never failed him for embezzling the Fortune of *Leonora*'s Husband. However averse, she was obliged to co-operate with him: The Woman who has made a Present of her Virtue to a Man is in no Condition to refuse him any thing else.

Thus managed the false Friend and seduced Wife, until *Honorius*, escaping contrary to their Hopes all Accidents, returned to *England*. When *Lothario* had Intelligence of his Landing, he proposed to the terrified *Leonora* to Elope with such of her Husband's Effects as she could get at, and commence a Law-suit with him for a Separation; promising her his Protection, and, by his Management, Success. But perceiving her altogether Wavering and Irresolute, he abandoned her, and her House, the following Night. When *Honorius* came home, he found his Wife Self-destroyed by Poison; and a Paper by her, wherein she disclosed the Scene of Villainy, and very ingenuously acknowledged her Criminal Share in it. *Honorius*'s Business was now the Pursuit of *Lothario*. He for a Time evaded his Researches; but when he judged *Honorius*'s first Fury somewhat spent, tired of a Fugitive Life, he re-appeared at *London*. Thither

Thither *Honorius* flies ; and his Impatience of the pungent Injuries received from *Lothario* (his Friendship abused, his Substance wasted, his Family dishonoured, his beloved and once-loving Wife seduced and murdered) brooking no Delay, the very Night of his Arrival he sends him a Challenge in Writing for the next Morning. *Lothario* was no Coward, and Master of his Sword ; glad too to find the Determination of so bad an Affair put on so fair a footing, he meets him accordingly : And *Honorius*, too deeply injured, too justly enraged to dally, at the first Onset receives *Lothario*'s Sword in his Left Arm, and plunges his own in the Heart of his villainous Friend. For this *Honorius* was seized, *ingoal'd*, and brought to Trial. He there endeavoured to justify, or excuse the Fact, by a Relation of his Provocations. *Lothario* had taken malicious Care that the Challenge sent him should be forthcoming, the Judge therefore

therefore declared the Evidence fully Legal against *Honorius*, and the Jury without Hesitation pronounced him Guilty. Intercession was not wanting for a Pardon; yet, as it was a prevailing Maxim with those then in Power to shew no Favour to the unhappy Duellist, it proved ineffectual: And *Honorius*, pursuant to his Sentence, was ignominiously Executed, for doing what the General Conscience approved, for Manfully resenting Injuries too big for Humanity to bear, though not provided against by the Laws of the Land.

I will not add, Sir, to the Length of this Letter by apologizing for it; but shall rely on your Leisure and Patience to excuse,

SIR,

Aug. 30, 1751.

Your Friend and Servant,



THE
BRUISER,
OR AN
INQUIRY
Into the PRETENSIONS of
MODERN MANHOOD.

In a Letter to a Young Gentleman.

*Rudem sane Bonarum Artium, et Robore
Corporis stolidae Ferocem. Tac. A. 1. c. 3.*



BRUNA

卷之三

КИЦОИ

MODERN MANKHOOD

medio basico girofita, *Leptosiphon* s. n.



A

LETTER TO A YOUNG GENTLEMAN.

SIR,

LE ST the complimentary Silence I observed, during the Declamation a Nobleman lately made, in our Company, in Praise of Modern Manhood, be misinterpreted by you as an Acquiescence in his Sentiments ; lest his Lordship's Station and Character act as authoritatively on your Opinion as they did on my Breeding ; or his Eloquence bias your Judgment, ere, perhaps,

it be sufficiently informed ; I intreat as a Friend your patient Perusal of what follows.

You are not to learn, Sir, that Valor (whose important Merit is the Defence of ourselves and others) consists in braving Pain and Death ; nor that from the superior Portion thereof which Men possess beyond Women, our Language has form'd the Word *Manhood*, expressive of Courage, or in the more limited Sense of the active Exertion of Courage, and partially opposed to the Term *Effeminacy*, which then means a Degree of Timidity, excuseable only in a Woman.

In the early Ages of Antiquity (as Reflection will suggest to you, and Reading confirm) Strength was essential to Manhood : so essential indeed, as commonly to be confounded with, and mistaken for, it. For, as Active, Palpable, Fortitude, could not then be exhibited without Strength of Body ; (tho' the less obvious Passive certainly could) and as it was apparent that many strong Men were valiant ; and as weak Men were incapacitated from manifesting the striking Part of Courage ;

Courage; it came to be vulgarly and falsely concluded, that robust Men were necessarily Heroes, and feeble Men Cowards; and that Debility was Pusillanimity, and Robusticity Valor. An Error that has descended in Part to these Times; the Standard of most Armies, and of our own in particular, excluding those whom Reason and Experience find fittest for Service; and estimating Men, like Cannon, by the Weight of Metal.

Strength being thus consider'd as an Earnest of the valuable Quality to which it was assistant, assumed a Claim to proportionate Respect; to the Advantage of many a Giant, who was deficient enough in *the inward Grace*, though conspicuously redundant in *the outward and visible Sign*.

Men used undoubtedly in their first Quarrels as Arms, what Nature rather intended as the Means of using Arms: Hands employed

*Arma Antiqua Manus, Ungues, Dentesque, fuerunt;
Et Lapides, et item Sylvarum Fragmina Rami.*

Lucret. l. 5.

ployed in this Manner giving us an obvious Superiority over all other Animals, for few of whom we are a Match in the first Misemployment of them. In such rude uninform'd Times, the Polluxers, ^a or Boxers, were in Repute. But the Boughs of Trees soon furnish'd a better Hint, and gave Rise to the Herculeses, or Bludgeoners.

The Defence of States and Ambition of Particulars having by Degrees reduced Homicide to an Art, Iron, ^b and other hard Metals, were introduced in increasing Loads,

^a The Curious of knowing the ancient Manner of Boxing may read the Trial of Manhood between *Pollux* and *Amucus*, in *Theocritus*; that between *Epeus* and *Euryalus*, in the *Iliad*; or that between *Entellus* and *Dares*, in the *Aeneid*. In the first, *Pollux*, the Victor, aims, in opposition to the present Artists, his Blows at the Head. The Boxing of the Ancients differ'd also from that of the Moderns, in that it excluded Wrestling, and was no Jest; the Cestuses, with which they armed their Hands, being in reality mortal Weapons.

^b *Cum prorepserunt primis Animalia terris,
Mutum et turpe pecus, glandem et cubilia propter
Unguibus et Pugnis, dein Fustibus, atque ita porro
Pugnabant Armis quæ post fabricaverat Usus.*

HOR. Sat. 3.1.4.

both as offensive and defensive Armour. Bodily Vigour was hitherto a necessary Concomitant of Heroism; the Idea of a Warrior included that of a stout Man; and a Battle for a long Time was little more than Picqueering, or a Succession of single Combats. And though the Invention of missile Weapons afforded weak Men of Courage the Means of doing something in an Engagement, yet it was *behind the Shields of the Ajaxes that the Teucers ^a erected their Batteries*, and on the first that the decisive Hand-to-Hand depended. In order therefore to produce and promote the Strength of Limb requisite in War, laborious Exercises and Sports were generally set on Foot and encouraged; most of which were wholly Martial, and the Rest had a manifest Tendency to Military Accomplishment.

This is the History of *Ancient Manhood*; which you perceive, Sir, was meritorious because useful. Let us now examine whether the Modern has the same Flea for it.

Modern

^a Homer.

Modern Manhood is, Boxing, Cudgelling, Driving, Race-riding, Hunting, Cricketing, Drinking, Slovenliness, &c. Boxing, or in Terms of Art Bruising, being the principal Head of this Hydra, to which the others seem but Appendixes, we must spend some Time in its Investigation ; satisfying ourselves in amends with a cursory View of the Rest.

We should doubtless entertain a bad Opinion of the Head of an Artificer, who should throw away his Instruments, and use his naked Hands, merely in order to work more like a Man ; yet the Cunning of the present Age, rejecting the Improvements of Experience, has retrograded to the Primary Manner of Fighting ; on a Supposition of its being the most courageous and equal ; the most courageous, because Men depend on nothing therein but their personal Ability ; the most equal, because it brings all Men to a Level. Hence has arisen a *Samsonian Merit*, on which our Countrymen greatly value themselves ; nor a little contemn the Rest of the World who have superseded it. Hence,

in Breach and Defiance of Law, publick Combats are exhibited for the Instruction of *Britons* in the exploded Science of Pugillation; which are crowded and idolized by the Vulgar, and I wish I could say unnoticed and uncountenanced by the Great. Hence the delicate Gentleman emulates with vain Attempt the Hardiness of the Labourer; and suffers himself to be insulted and battered by a Rabble he ought to deliver over to the Beadle.

But Boxing is scarce ever, what it pretends to be, a fair Trial of Manhood; on Account of the apparent Disparity in Height and Strength; between particular Men; a Circumstance to which the boldest Bruisers pay in their Matches a Pusillanimous Attention. Nor is Boxing itself so totally irrational, as not to admit of Art enough to turn the Scale when Size and Limb equipercede.

The Claim of Bruising to Courage will turn out too ill founded enough: Because (as Valor depends much on Habit, so that

the Mariner on his proper Element shall laugh at the Danger that frightens the Land-man, who on Shore is perhaps less timid than he) those who accustom themselves to decide all Disputes by Methods that never endanger their Lives (which Boxers profess, though Accidents sometimes deceive them) will be apt to be surprised and terrified at the Presentment of mortal Weapons. But it is only in the Encounter and Use of such Arms that the Valor of Men can be serviceable either to the Publick or themselves. For, now that Human Ingenuity has invented *Fire-Arms*, Weapons which no other can oppose, and that leave no Inequality between Combatants, *but of Intrepidity*, Recourse will inevitably be had to these on all momentous Occasions, in Spite of the Fondness of our Goliabs for the obsolete ^a Boys-play of Fifty-cuffs, or

of

^a *Multa Viri nequicquam inter se Vulnera jactant,
Multæ cavo Lateri, ingeminant, et Pectore vastos
Dant Sonitus, erratque Aires & Tempora circum
Crebra Manus, duro crepitant sub Vulnera Malæ.*

ÆNEID. l. 5.

of their Aversion to Gunpowder, which they consider (with *Sancho-like Sagacity*) as an unfair Instrument. They must therefore console themselves with the Exclamation of *Shakespear's Fop*:

— “That it was great Pity, so it was,
 “ That villainous Saltpetre should be dug
 “ Out of the Bowels of the harmless Earth,
 “ Which many a proper Fellow had destroy'd
 “ So cowardly.”

In evidence of what is last advanced, let the most debilitated Desperado turn out on *Hounslow-Heath*, with a Pocket Pistol, and he shall plunder and mal-treat every Champion that passes, from the *Semibrute Waggoner* to the *Titled Broughtonian*, who is alternately carried and drubbed by his Chairman. So useless is the **Ouran-Outang Defence of Hands* become.

F 2

But

² The *Ouran-Outang* is a large Ape in the *East-Indies*.

But though this ineffectual Combat be by no means promotive of real Valor, yet fails it not to render its Adherents insolent and quarrelsome in the supreme Degree; insomuch that a *Congregation* of the Populace is become synonymous to a Riot, and infallibly produces Breaches of the Peace. And in a Commonwealth where *the Toe of the Peasant* continually galls *the Curtier's Kibe*, where the wanton Insults of the Mob make it scarce practicable for a Gentleman to walk the Streets, and dangerous even to travel the Road; how inconsiderate, how infatuated, must the Gentry be to divest themselves of the very slender Pre-eminence allowed their Rank, and voluntarily submit to, and impolitely encourage an *inglorious Equality* with the meanest Rabble, in the Determination of *Quarrels* that are obtruded on them! Equality I should not call it, for the Callosity of Muscle consequential to and unacquireable but by continued Labour, makes

makes a decisive Difference against all Gentlemen; those only excepted, who, by habituating themselves to vulgar Occupations and Diversions, become indeed only *Extravagated Mob.* Whereas would the *Populace of Distinction* only disuse this mean Contest, which can never take Place in their proper Disputes, and withdraw their Countenance from those Amphitheatres that are the vile Seminaries of Insolence and Disturbance; the Magistracy, aware of their Illegality, would soon suppress them; and our Streets and Roads would in Time be freed from the Frays and Tumults that incommode them, and Particulars from unmerited unavoidable Insults.

Let me conclude this Head with a Delineation of the Character of *Milo*, a Bruiser of Rank, with whom you are well enough acquainted, Sir, to judge of its Fitnes.

Milo discovered an early Aversion to Literature and Politeness; and from the Time

Time he became Master of his Actions, consoled with the lowest Company; contracting thereby an habitual Love of their Exercises and Amusements, for a P re-
eminence in which an Athletic Body qualified him. In the Country where he commonly re-
sides, *Milo* Boxes, Cudgels, Fox-hunts, Rides
Races, Drives, Rows or Punts, Drinks
and Smokes. When compell'd as a Le-
gislator to be in *London*, he frequents the
Amphitheatrical Exhibitions, Bunts, Drinks,
Riots, and engages with Hackney-coach-
men and Watchmen. *Milo* knows nothing
of the Constitution of his own, or of
the History of other Nations; but he
understands a Horse or a Dog as well
as any Jockey or Huntsman in his Coun-
try. He despises genteel Exercises, and can
neither *Ride*, *Fence*, nor *Dance*; but then
he can *Stick*, *Box*, and *play at Cricket*.
Milo, hastening in his Chariot to the Se-
nate, was impeded by the Impudence of
a Carman. He gives and receives Ill-
Language, warms, quits his Equipage,
strips,

strips, and fights. He happened to meet with an Overmatch, was severely handled, and gave out. When he went to recloath, he found that his Footman, buried as his Master's Second, had suffered his Accoutrements to be carried off. *Milo* laughs, shakes his Conqueror by the *Paw*, gives him a Guinea, and drives home in his Shirt, chequered with Dirt and Blood, pursued by the Acclamations of the Mob. Another Time *Milo* chanced to mix with a Company of Men of Fashion and Honour. He presently conceived an Antipathy against a little well-drest Gentleman, whom he did not know. Emboldened by Liquor (of which he always secures a *Benjamin* Portion) he commenced a Volunteer Inopportune Quarrel, reproached him with Effeminacy, and dealt a Blow. The Person so injured proved to be a Man of known Spirit. He retreated to his Sword, bared and pointed it at his Gigantic Insulter, minding him of his Defence. *Milo* falls into a Panic, applies to the Company for Protection, pleads his Ignorance

rance of the Use of a Weapon that every Gentleman carries about him, and exclaims on the Cowardice of drawing on a naked Man. His Antagonist having given him some Correction with his Flat, retired. Recovered from his Fright, *Milo* enquired who his Opponent was; and received Information: He then left the Company, declaring with an Oath, "that the first Time he "met that Frenchified Pygmy *without his Toledo*, he would beat him within an Inch "of his Life."

Boxing then it seems, Sir, has its Objections. But what can be said against Hunting? Hunting, that has Air, Exercise, and Horsemanship, for its Advocates; Health and Strength for its Attendants. Let us not however be stun'd by Popular Clamour. Let us consider whether Hunting in its present State, * is any thing more than *Riding hard*

* Hunting was originally a Martial Diversion; and the Beasts that were the Objects of its Pursuit made it no ungenerous Warfare.

*Spumantemque dari Pecora inter Inertia Votis
Optat Aprum, aut fulvum descendere Monte Leonem.*

ÆNEID. l. 4

hard, and leaping bold; whether this Part of Horsemanship can ever be serviceable but in a Flight from an Enemy, and whether any other is acquired by the *modern Centaurs*, by their perpetual Incorporation with their Beasts. Let us examine whether Exercise may not be pushed to an Excess destructive of its very Intention, and so rend in Pieces the Machine it is designed to keep in Motion: The Horses therein used surely prove the Fact, and afford us a Document worth attending to. The Sports of the Field can certainly be defensible only under rational Restrictions; and that must be a most invaluable Life of which they are the Business,

The fashionable Addiction too of our young Patricians to Plebeian Employments, and illiberal Diversions, is a ridiculous Folly, nay more, an unpardonable Misapplication of their Time and Talents. Yet you will undoubtedly consider it, Sir, in a more indulgent View than the austere Tribune, who, reproaching the worst of *Roman Emperors* with the worst of Crimes, jumbles toge-

ther Driving and Racing, Incendiarism and
Parricide.

Our Self-calling Men are guilty of another Mistake, when too Mole-sighted to discern Elegance from Foppery, they conclude all Taste in Dress to be Characteristic of Effemiancy and Pusillanimity, and suppose Negligence and Nastiness to be Assurances of Manhood. For they might reflect, that the same Spirit which ambitiously distinguishes itself in Apparel, would not probably be daintily negligent of its Honour; and should recollect, that Finery in Dress is of Military Institution, and has scarce ever been discontinued among Warriors, from *Hercules* himself, who wore his Lion-Skin Robe for Ornament as well as Defence, to the French Officer that dresses equally well for a Ball or an Action; that *Achilles* is represented as the best-drest Man in the *Grecian Army*; and

Odise capi (says he to *Nero*) *postquam Parricida Matris et Uxoris, Auriga et Histrio, et Incendiarius extitisti.*

TAC. A. 15.

(to give an Instance which shall make a second superfluous) that *Julius Cæsar*, the greatest General and Statesman the World ever produced, was also the greatest Beau.^a

Hard-drinking being also necessary to the Consummation of the Bruising Character, I shall lay hold on the Opportunity to point out to you, Sir, an indecent Custom that has lately established itself of slipping every disorderly Bacchanal into the Places of public Amusement, instead of ^b *shutting the Doors on him that he might play the Fool no where but in his own House*. This Practice frequently perverts our Diversions into Tumults, and subjects our Women to undeserved Imper-
tinences, and our Men to unprovoked Insults;

^a To pass by the unprecedented Innovations made by *Cæsar* in the *Roman Dress* during his Youth, hear what *Suetonius* relates of him when he had touched the Gole of Age and Glory : *Calvitii sui Deformitatem cum Iniquissime ferret, ex omnibus Decretis sibi à Senatu Populoque Honoribus non aliud aut recepit aut usurpavit Libentius quam Jus Laureæ Coronæ perpetuo Gestandæ.*" c. 45:

^b Shakespear.

while an ill-judged Lenity is exerted, at the Expence of the innoxious Sufferers, to the inexcuseable Offender, who ought in Justice and Reason to be always compelled to leave the Assembly he has thus violated.

But you, Sir, forewarned by my Admonition, or secured by the happy Cast of your Genius, will take no *Milo* for a Model of Conduct. You will reserve your Courage for the Call of your Country, or your own Defence; nor enter into an irreputable Competition with the Dregs of the Community. You will resign the Box to your Coachman, and the Racer (if you ever *train a Galloper*) to your Groom. You will look on the Field as the Spot of rural Amusement, not as the Scene of Glory: nor will you blush to make your Dress (what it should be) distinctive of the Rank you enjoy. So shall you be an Exception and Example to a depraved Age, and a Delight and Honour to your Friends: among the warmest of whom is, dear Sir, &c.

Jan. 5, 1752.



